

## BOOK REVIEWS

BECHTEL, HELMUT, PHILLIP CRIBB and EDMUND LAUNERT. 1992. **The Manual of Cultivated Orchid Species**. Third Edition. The MIT Press, 55 Hayward St., Cambridge, Mass., 02142. Hardbound \$85.00. 585 pp.

This reference manual can be used by orchid collectors and growers for identification, cultivation and nomenclature. The first section includes short informative chapters on morphology, life cycles, ecology, history, cultivation, hybridization, conservation, nomenclature and classification.

Part two, the majority of the book, covers the cultivation of species in cultivation. The text is in alphabetical order by genus then species. Under the generic heading is a description of the distinguishing features, distribution, derivation of name, taxonomy, type species, synonym, and culture. Under the species heading is again a description, distribution, history, and synonyms.

There are 357 genera and 1,500 species described. The book has 864 color photographs, 62 line drawings, a glossary, an index of synonyms and an index of related species. *Dotty Woodson*.

VANDERPLANK, JOHN. 1991. **Passion Flowers and Passion Fruit**. MIT Press, 55 Hayward St., Cambridge, Mass., 02142. Hardbound \$35.00. 176 pp.

This monograph can be used by botanist and grower for identification and cultural information. The text includes chapters on classification and structure, the legend of the passion flower, cultivation, propagation, hybridization, butterflies and pest and diseases. Chapter 5 list the species, hybrids and varieties in alphabetical order by species. Each species is described with taxonomical description, distribution, synonyms and culture. There is an identification key and glossary. There are 160 illustrations and 60 color plates. *Dotty Woodson*.

PARKINSON, JOHN. 1991. **A Garden of Pleasant Flowers. Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris**. Facsimile of 1629 edition. Dover Publications, 11 East 2nd Street, Mineola, N.Y. 11501. Paper \$24.95. 640 pp.

This is a republication of John Parkinson's horticultural guide of 1000 plants from all over the world that could be grown in England. John Parkinson was the apothecary to King James I and botanist to Charles I. 812 plants are illustrated on 108 full-page plates. The text is divided into three sections, The Garden of Pleasant Flowers, The Kitchen Garden and The Ordering of the Orchard. *Dotty Woodson*.

WEST, KEITH. 1992. **Painting Plant Portraits: A Step by Step Guide**. Timber Press, 9999 S. W. Wilshire, Portland, Oregon 97225. Hardbound \$32.95. 112 pp.

The author beautifully demonstrates the stages of painting twelve plants. The author illustrates each step from pencil drawing to the finish water coloring. A commentary explains each step and technique. Anyone interested in learning to paint plant with water color will be delighted to read this book. There are 120 color illustrations. *Dotty Woodson*.